

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph extending from line 10 of page 1 to line 5 of page 2 of the substitute specification submitted with the Reply which was filed in this matter on March 5, 2008, as follows:

This solution involves a method for mechanically and chemically treating a fabric by impregnation with caustic soda, or with another metal peroxide. The method includes application of the metal peroxide to a hydrophilic fabric, for example a de-sized fabric and/or a previously bleached fabric, having threads oriented in a selected fabric machine direction, including a weft, or inversely, a warp, which threads are made of natural or artificial cellulose fibers. During impregnation with the metal peroxide, the weft (or inversely the warp) of the fabric is left free for a period of time necessary for swelling of the fibers constituting the weft (or inversely the warp) of the fabric and for modification of the cellulose forming the fibers of the fabric. The fabric is then subjected to at least one relaxation with no weft tension (or inversely, with no warp tension), by passage in air, during which the weft (or inversely the warp) swells and then assumes a spring shape, after shrinkage, at least one rinsing, at least one washing, and at least one squeezing.